



VPP Beef Niche Market Cull Cow earns a premium BCS #3

# BEEF TRIM



Unworthy of selling into the VPP Beef Niche Market BCS #1

Sponsored by Pfizer Animal Health

Southwest Region



Cow A

## Mastitis and You!

### When to cull?

You are very familiar with press stating Mastitis costs you money. We have found reports of annual milk losses ranging from \$15 to \$350/head. (Inflamed udder, swollen, red, hot & hard udder, milk is bloody).



Cow B

But, this issue of Beef Trim wants to talk about your costs from clinical mastitis that may butcher your beef check. Mastitis can be a costly problem and your staff needs to be in front of the mastitis issue.

Note the photos above and to the left. A VPP animal is designed to capture a premium for quality meat. These are not premium animals.

Would you want your family to buy the meat from cow A? When these animals are on the rail what happens?

A - If Mastitis has moved into the carcass (septicemia or blood poisoning) the carcass is condemned resulting in a loss of \$1,000. If animal is sold grade and yield you will lose the income from the entire carcass.

B - When Mastitis is less severe as in cow "B", the risk to your beef market goes up and they will bid less because the carcass may be condemned or the animal's yield may drop 5-8% and your sale value will be reduced \$100 to \$125.

Either choice is bad - - - all dairies have clinical mastitis. Early intervention can keep your beef losses at a minimum.



Animal Health

Merry Christmas and have a prosperous New Year!

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